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Parks and Recreation Minutes 01/08/2002

Park and Recreation Commission Minutes

Tuesday, January 8, 2002 at 7:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes -- Approved

The Park and Recreation Commission meeting came to order at 7:45 PM in the Whittemore Robbins House.

Commissioners Present: Don Vitters, Leslie Mayer, Mark McCabe, Joe Carabello and Bernice Jones

Staff Present: Jon Jalbert, Superintendent of Recreation

Others Present: Arthur Ales, Rink Improvement Committee

1. Minutes

The Commission reviewed the minutes of December 11, 2001. After corrections and additions, Mr. McCabe motioned to approve the minutes and approved 4-0.

2. Sports Center Improvement Committee Update

Mr. Vitters had no update from the town manager. Don is still trying to contact him to set up a time to meet.

3. Mr. O'Quinn's Letter to the Town Manager

Jon presented a letter that was sent to the Town Manager from Mr. O'Quinn. Mr. O'Quinn's concern is giving ice time for Arlington Catholic when there is limited ice time for everyone. The Town Manager responded briefly to Mr. O'Quinn's letter by referring him to the Park and Recreation Commission. In order to address Mr. O'Quinn's concern Jon presented the Commission with a report detailing the current total allotted ice time for all user groups at the Sports Center Ice Rink. The Commission agreed to respond to Mr. O'Quinn and to the Town Manager (Don Vitters will write the letter) that there nothing can be done at this time but the Commission will look at ice permitting policies for next year. A copy of the ice time report will be included with the letter.

4. 2001 Annual Report Review-Don Vitters:

Postponed until next Commission Meeting.

5. Field House Project Update- Leslie Mayer:

Leslie Mayer updated the Commissioners on the Field House Project. The project includes a foundation that will serve as a cap on the contamination at a cost of 2.86 million (given from the settlement). The plans for the entire Pierce Field project are still in place for restructuring the basketball courts and possibly adding a skateboard park. With construction on Pierce Field being anywhere from 1-3 years and therefore having a field house would provide playing area that would not be available outside. Plans for the field house or any project are on hold until Kay Donovan comes back with another proposal for the Capital Planning Committee. As she understood, the Capital Planning Committee denied the proposal for a field house.

6. Capital Project Review

Projects will be reviewed in upcoming Commissioner meetings. Capital Project layout plans are now available in the recreation office.

7. Recreation/Rink Update

- Donna is back from maternity leave! We are very excited to have her back.
- Spring permits are starting to come in and the deadline is January 31, 2002. Any permit request received after that date will not be reviewed until all previous permits are granted.
- Jon informed the Commissioners about a rink incident on Wed., Jan. 2, 2002 with patrons walking in restricted area at the same time the Zamboni was going out and the Zamboni operator left the vehicle in the walkway to block patrons. Jon will be meeting with Town Manager, Patsy and Jack Hurd to resolve the issue or issues at the rink. Jon asked his staff person to write an incident report and asked that all future concerns or complaints be forwarded to Jon. Jon is going to look at the options for opening up the restricted area.
- Jon presented the commissioners a comparison study that Bob McKeown worked on which compared fees being charged at other rinks. Jon also presented a copy of the rules at the rink for the Commissioners to review.

8. Budget Update and Fee Increases for FY03

New developments thus far, the Recreation enterprise will now cover 100% health insurance for all full-time staff. The Commission is still in favor of raising fees across the board to cover the budget increases for next year. Jon presented the updated budget summary with the added health insurance figures.

9. Other

Leslie Mayer presented a draft of goals from the Reservoir Committee and was looking for the Park and Recreation Commission's public support and sponsorship. The Commission made a motion to support the goals of the Reservoir Committee. The motion was approved 4-0.

The Commission adjourned at 11:15 pm.

Jon Jalbert, Superintendent of Recreation, took minutes